

THE BICENTENNIAL BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BAHÁ'Í FAITH

HON. LYNN JENKINS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 200th anniversary of the birth of Baha'u'llah, the founder of the Baha'i Faith. The message from the Baha'i faith has been that of justice, unity, and peace. I am proud to join my Baha'i constituents in Kansas and those around the world to recognize the occasion of the Bicentennial Birth Anniversary of the Baha'i faith.

The Baha'i Faith first arrived in the U.S. over 120 years ago and now the Baha'is live not only in my state of Kansas, but in every state of our union. Wherever they may live, Baha'is champion the principles of their faith and strive to build a better world by being good citizens, serving their communities, as well as working side by side with others to promote the common good.

Our world would do well to follow the example of Baha'u'llah, as he was known for his charity, service to others, and known as a father to the poor. I am grateful for this opportunity to wish the entire Baha'i community the very best as they continue to be an example of common respect and service to their fellow man.

RECOGNIZING THE 2017 INSTITUTE FOR EXCELLENCE IN SALES AND DEVELOPMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2017 recipients of the Lifetime Achievement Award and the Woman in Sales Leadership Award presented by the Institute for Excellence in Sales & Business Development (IES).

IES was created to foster excellence in business sales and development practices and to help sales professionals and organizations maximize their efforts. IES conducts a variety of workshops and programs designed to provide the knowledge and tools necessary to advance the careers and growth of those who attend. Each year, IES recognizes individuals, teams, and organizations throughout the United States who demonstrate exemplary performance through leadership, risk taking, innovation, vision, and customer development.

Awards are presented in categories including Excellence in Sales Innovation, Excellence in Sales Training, Excellence in Sales Management, Excellence in Customer Partnering, and Excellence in Strategic Alliances. In addition, Lifetime Achievement Awards are bestowed to a select few who have demonstrated continued success and have made significant contributions in their fields.

The recipient of the 2017 Lifetime Achievement Awards is Mr. Paul Smith, Senior Vice President and General Manager of Public Sector for Red Hat, North America. In this capacity, Mr. Smith manages the Red Hat portfolio

across the entire federal government, as well as the state and local marketplaces as it relates to education. Prior to joining Red Hat, Mr. Smith enjoyed successful careers at VERITAS, Netscape Communication and Oracle.

The recipient of the inaugural Woman in Sales Leadership Award is Ms. Mary Beth Cockerham, Vice-President of Sales for Deltek. In this capacity, Ms. Cockerham manages all sales personnel related to Deltek's GovWinIQ program, which provides business intelligence to companies that are pursuing public sector sales. Prior to joining Deltek, Ms. Cockerham spent 20 years with Sun Microsystems in a variety of data-related sales roles.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Paul Smith and Mary Beth Cockerham for their innovative and effective leadership and in congratulating them on receiving the 2017 IES Lifetime Achievement Award and Woman in Sales Leadership Award.

EXTENDING FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge Congress to address the imminent financial crisis that is facing our nation's community health centers.

Last week, when I was back home in my district, I had the opportunity to visit the Institute for Family Health Center for Counseling in the Bronx. This is just one of New York's 29 Federally Qualified Health Centers operated by the Institute for Family Health, which is committed to improving access to high-quality, patient-centered primary health care targeted to the needs of medically underserved communities. The Center for Counseling highlights the importance of integrated behavioral health as part of the primary care continuum for all Americans, regardless of where they live.

My visit was a reminder of the important role community health centers play in our nation's health care system. They are driven by a commitment to reduce health disparities and assure every American has access to high-quality health care. Congress must not stand in the way of this vital role.

However, this Republican-led Congress has championed partisan gridlock that threatens the vitality of our community and teaching health centers. As of today, we have watched 24 days go by since federal funding for the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) Community Health Center Fund expired at the end of September. These federal health programs have steadfast bipartisan support, yet the majority's partisan approach is holding up the essential federal funding these centers rely on.

Within a package to extend federal funding for community and teaching health centers as well as the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Republicans proposed several problematic offsets that would ultimately set our health care system back. For example, certain changes to Medicaid would inhibit access to pediatric providers, and cuts to the ACA's Public Health and Prevention Fund

would undermine the value of preventive services delivered at community health centers. Furthermore, the package would lead to higher premiums for certain seniors receiving Medicare benefits and shorter grace periods for individuals who receive their health coverage through the individual market. In other words, this package would slash benefits and protections for one group of beneficiaries to extend services for another.

Democrats will not stand for any packages that would rob Peter to pay Paul. I urge my Republican colleagues to drop this partisan exercise and work with us on a compromise to extend these long-standing, successful, bipartisan federal health programs. The job of our nation's 10,400 community health centers is much too important to bear the brunt of needless political games.

CONGRATULATING BRIGADIER GENERAL MICHAEL HAYES ON HIS RETIREMENT AS MANAGING DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF MILITARY AND FEDERAL AFFAIRS, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I'm proud that Maryland is home to some of the finest military installations in the country, where our nation's most dedicated service-members and civilian defense employees work to keep our country safe. Over the last eighteen years, they and their families and the communities that support our installations have had an outstanding advocate in Brigadier General Michael Hayes USMC (Ret.). Since August, 1999, after his retirement from a distinguished career as a decorated Marine Corps officer, Mike has led the State of Maryland's Office of Military and Federal Affairs as its first Director.

Under Mike's leadership, the Office of Military and Federal Affairs and the Maryland Military Installation Council have overseen efforts to bring community, academic, and military—as well as federal, state, and local—resources together to promote regional development and economic growth. I've had the pleasure of working closely with him over the years to ensure that Fifth District military installations—Patuxent River, Webster Field, and Indian Head—can continue to grow, serve our national defense, and bring jobs and opportunities to surrounding communities. Mike has played a pivotal role in these efforts, which have earned him accolades, including being named one of two national 'Public Officials of the Year' by the Association of Defense Communities (ADC) in 2007 and becoming a member of the ADC Board of Directors in 2011.

Mike's service to the State of Maryland caps a long career as a Marine officer. He served on active duty during the Vietnam War, commanding artillery batteries during two tours. Later, he went on to command Marine units based in the United States, Japan, and Panama before serving as Chief of Staff to the II Marine Expeditionary Force during Operation Desert Storm. Following his return home, Mike served as Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Facilities and Services at the Marine Corps